(1948) Depart

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 710

Dated 27-12-1948.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Establishment - Temporary - Rural Reconstruction - Employment of additional staff in collectors& office - Necessity for - Examined - Papers - Recorded.

FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Extract of Secretary's remarks in the file bearing C.No.2936-F.D.I/48

I very reluctantly approve the draft. I am not convinced that the additional work thrown on the Collector's office by the Firka Develppment is really so heavy or voluminous as to require the services of a wholetime clerk.

Please take up the question separately and examine why the clerks, wherever sanctioned, should not be disbanded.

I have an uneasy feeling that we are wasting public funds. There is not enough work for a wholetime clerk in the collector's office.

M.S.J.
6-7-48

Extract of Secretary's remarks in the file bearing No.2405-F-D.I/48

On the file relating to West Godavari district, I have made some comments. In my opinion, there is no need to give a clerk to each collector for Firka Development work. I am much pained at heart to have to be a party to such wastage of public funds.

Please examine the question separately. How long has each Collector had the benefit of this additional clerk in the name and on the pretext of Firka Develppment work?

M-S.J.
6-7-48

Please see the remarks of the Secretary above. Submitted that a statement showing the dates from which the clerks in connection with the Firka Develppment were entertained in the collectors' offices and the dates on which the posts will expire, is put up at flag (M). In cases where the exact dates of appointment and expiry are not known, the probable month in which the posts will expire is given. Information has been separately called for regarding the exact date of appointment and expiry. There are at present twelve upper division clerks and four lower division clerks working in each of the sixteen collectors' offices. ~~Development staff, such as leave, disciplinary action, etc.~~

2. Some of the collectors requested the Government sanction for the employment of additional clerical staff to cope with the increase in work on account of Firka Development in the Collectors' offices even at the beginning of the introduction of the Firka Development scheme; but Government, in their Memo. No.20172-K-46-1, Food, dated 5-10-1946 ordered that the question should be deferred till the survey of the villages of the Firkas was completed and the coordinated plans prepared. Only in the case of the offices of the collectors of Vizagapatam, Guntur, West Godavari and East Godavari one upper division clerk each has been acting for more than one year as the work in these districts was considered to be very heavy even at the inception of the scheme.

3. The work in the collectors' offices as seen from their reports has considerably increased on account of the Firka Development work. The Collectors are made primarily responsible for the successful working of the scheme in their respective districts The clerk will have to attend to the scrutiny of the weekly diaries of the Village Development Officers, the fortnightly diaries and progress reports of the Firka Development Officers, prepare the necessary material for the demi-official, ~~prepare the necessary material for the demi prepare the prepare the necessary mat~~ reports of the collectors about the work done in the fortnight by the Firka Development staff and the officers of the various departments. Monthly control of expenditure statements and the

P.T.O.

reconciliation of the accounts connected therewith quarterly statements of expenditure, monthly progress reports on the work done by the staff employed in connection with the village Communications and Rural Water Supply will have to be attended to by him. The correspondence relating to the Discretionary Grants, the Funds for Village Communications and Rural Water supply involving the scruitiny of the estimates and passing of Bills, etc., will also be looked into by him. He must also be careful that the expenditure under the several schemes will not exceed the allotment sanctioned and that the allotment is spent evenly throughout the year. This will entail a careful review of the work done by the several subordinates from time to time. The construction of M.B. Sheds in all the firkas also has increased the correspondence considerably. Several other schemes connected with irrigation, sanitation, education, medical, electricity, veterinary, agriculture, postal, cooperation, etc. which are under investigation by other departments have to be dealt with in the Collector's office before they are submitted to Government as and when the investigation in each case is completed. The work will naturally increase further, when the schemes are taken up for execution.

4. Firka Development work is increasing gradually day by day by the introduction of new schemes. The work itself is a new idea and it demands great promptitude and resourcefulness on the part of those handling it. Though the initiative for the new ideas lies with the Collectors, the bulk of the task of collecting uptodate statistics and other information and presenting them in proper form devolves on the clerk.

5. The number of currents received from the collectors in this department in Sections I, III and IV for the half year ending 30-6-1948, is 1303, 1630, and 445 respectively, out of a total of 3086, 3559 and 3189 received in these sections., and works out at 42.2% 46% and 14%. This, it will be observed, is apart from the correspondence within the district and with bodies like the Board of Revenue Accountant-General, Heads of Departments, etc.

other than the Government, on account of Firka Development work. According to the Collector of S. Kanara, the number of New Currents received in the seat per month, worked out at 60. In addition to the submission of the reports to the Government there is much miscellaneous correspondence which will not be sent up to Government, such as the scrutiny and passing of the T.A. Bills of the Firka Development staff, and the Firka Development Committee members, Firka Development Committee meetings and the correspondence relating to it and other correspondence with the Firka Development staff, such as leave, disciplinary action, etc.

6. Government have since approved the Scheme of the sub-Committee appointed by the Provincial Firka Development Board in its last meeting. This will also increase the work of the Collectors to a great extent and absorb the attention of a whole time clerk for a considerable time in a day.

7. Since the work is of a special nature involving the expenditure of thousands of rupees in each firka, it requires grea skill and expenience on the part of the clerk entrusted with it and it cannot be entrusted to a novice who has just stepped into the Collectorate after passing the Madras Public Service Commission. It is also submitted that without indiscriminately sanctioning the staff to all the Collectors, great care was taken in sanctioning the staff only to such of those collectors who have felt a real necessity for the employment of the additional staff. Sanction for the employment of an U.D.C. was accorded only to such of the collectors who had made out a case for the employment of an U.D.C. in view of the special conditions and heavy work in their districts, and in other places, where the collectors had asked for a lower division clerk, only the lower division clerk was sanctioned.

8. The Government are also considering the drawing up of a composite plan of development of the firkas and centres which

P.T.O.

will necessarily involve much clerical work in the collectors' offices. It would therefore appear that there is a strong case for the retention of these clerks in the collectorates. For orders.

x x
17-7-48

This file is concerned with the examination of the question whether there is justification for a clerk in the Collectors Office for Firka Development work. When Secretary discussed this question with me, I was inclined to the view that there was no case for a whole time clerk in the Collector's office for Firka Development work. After a closer examination of the question, I am of the opinion that the Collectors should each have a whole-time clerk. As I look into the tappal every day I find that the bulk of the correspondence received in this Department which require examination is from the Collectors. The communications received from the Heads of Departments are not many. With the reorientation of the Firka Development work the work in the Coll ector's office is bound to increase and I can unhesitatingly say that Firka Depelopment work will suffer to an appreciable extent if the clerk in the Collector's office is cut out. At best we can try and see how the Collectors react if we give them a lower division clerk in the place of an upper division clerk.

xx xx
247-48

Works under R.W.Scheme and Communications are being pushed through in the districts only now. Bulk of the work under F.D. Scheme has to be carried out only by the Revenue Department I do not recommend for any retrenchment at this stage.

xx xx
2-8-48

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I wanted to discuss this with P.E.D.O. But with the overgrowing volume of work with which I am overwhelmed, I

could not find time suitable to him and to me. Page.... I am still ~~fi~~ firmly of opinion that these clerks are not needed for collectors at any rate in districts, where there is only clerk.

xx xx
26-11-48

P F.D.O.

The Government have sanctioned Rs.50,000 Rural Water Supply' and a similar sum for 'Village Communications'. We have ~~xx~~ also issued orders that these and other firka development schemes should be pushed through as quickly as possible. The Collector with his ever-growing work will not find time to personally attend to Firka Development work, unless he is given the assistance of a clerk. The question of retrenching the clerks' posts may be taken up as soon as the 'Water Supply' and 'Communications' schemes are completed.

xx xx
20-12-48

Page....

To A.S.

Ref:- P.F.D.O's orders above.

In view of P.F.D.O's orders above it is for orders whether the pappers may now be recorded (as G.O.Ms.) with a ~~call~~ call book entry for further examination on 25-3-1949.

xx xx
21-12-48

Yes.

sd. . .
25-12-48.

Subject.

Establishment Temporary - Rural Reconstruction - Employment of additional Staff in Collectors' Offices - Necessity for - Examinied - Papers recorded.

/True Copy/

Vizagapatam:-.U.D.C. sanctioned in G.O.No.222 Food, dated 6-3-1947 for one year from 26-3-1947. Extended for 6 months in G.O.90, F.D.dated 23-2-48. Total period 1 year and 6 months.

Coimbatore:- x x x x

East Godavari:- U.D.C. Sanctioned in G.O.1479 Public (P & D) dated 19-5-47 for one year from 5-6-47 and extended for 6 months in G.O.No.345 F.D. dated 12-12-6-48 expires on 4-12-48 Total period 1 year and 6 months.

Guntur:- U.D.C. sanctioned in G.O.415, Food, dated 9-4-47 for one year from 1-5-47; extended for 6 months in G.O.243 dated 29-4-48, Expires on 31-10-48 total period 1 year and 6 months.

S.Kanara:- x x x x

S.Arcot:- x x x x

Salem:- x x x x

Kistna:- U.D.C.sanctioned for six months from the date of appointment in G.O.No.202 F.D. dated 7-4-48. Expires in October 48.

Bellary:- U-D.C. sanctioned for a period of three months in G.O. 73, F.D. dated 16-2-48, from 28-2-48. Post expired on 27-5-48. Again extended for three months in G.O.Ms.No.341, F.D. dated 11-6-48 Expires on 27-8-48. Total period 6 months.

West Godavari:- U-D.C. sanctioned for one year from 30-1-47 in G.O.Ms.No.59 Food dated 20-1-47. Extended for six months from 30-1-48 in G.OkMs.No.203, F.D. dated 7-4-48. Again extended for three months in G.O.Ms.No.428, dated 7-7-48. Expires on 30-10-48 Total period 1 year and 9 months.

Malabar:- x x x x

Ramnad:- x x x x

Tanjore:- x x x x

Cuddapah:- L.D.C.sanctioned for six months from the date of employment in G.O.Ms.No.63, F.D. dated 10-2-48 expires probably in August 48.

Kurnool:- L.D.C.sanctioned for six months from the date of appointment in G.O.Ms.No.239 F.D. dated 6-4-48 expires probably in October 48.

The Nilgiris:- x x x x

/True Copy/

GK.

Office Assistant, 26/7
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

23/7/54